**Mt Blue High School**

**Profile**

**RSU #9**

***Who are we?***

**Demographics**

Mt Blue High School is a grade 9 through grade 12 school located in Farmington, Maine. According to the 2000 census, the city in which Mt. Blue High School is located had a population of approximately 9243. Our city has approximately 4164 households, with an average income of $27,981 per year. Our unemployment rate was 6.9 in 2000. Industry in the area includes: professional management, service, and sales (*www.census.gov*).

Mt. Blue High School is part of RSU #9, which currently serves 2,301 students in 7 schools: 5 elementary (K-6), 1 middle (7-8), and 1 senior high (9-12). Four years ago, the district served 2,391 students. This 90-student decrease in overall district enrollment during the last four years is shown in Figure 1 *(www.maine.gov)*.

**Figure 1**

The district student enrollment by percent ethnicity for 2011 is shown in Figure 2. The pie chart shows that the Mt. Blue Regional School District serves predominately white students *(www.maine.gov)*.

**Figure 2**

The percentage of high school student enrollment by socio-economic status (SES) has changed very little over the past five years (Figure 3). That being said, the difference between 2007 and 2010 and 2011 is a fairly large number *(https://portal.maine.gov/sfsr/sfsrdev.ed534.ed534\_parameters).*

**Figure 3**

**The Students**

Mt. Blue High School is the only senior high school in the district. Our school currently serves 741 students, down exactly 100 students from five years earlier *(www.maine.gov)*.

**Figure 4**

Figure 5 shows the percentage of student enrollment by ethnicity over time. The graph shows that Mt. Blue has consistently had approximately 96% white enrollment over time. Again, this shows the lack of ethnic diversity at Mt. Blue High School.

**Figure 5**

One can see the fluctuating population of this school attendance area reflected in the school enrollment by grade level over the last five years (Figure 6). This figure shows that 841 students were enrolled during the 2007-08 school year, but the number fell to only 741 students for the 2011-12 school year. This is a loss of 100 students *(www.maine.gov)*.

**Figure 6**

There were no English Proficient and English Learner students enrolled at Mt. Blue High School between 2007-08 and 2010-11 *(www.maine.gov)*.

**Programs**

*Special Education Services*

Figure 7A shows the number of students classified as needing special education services from 2003-04 to 2007-08. (The most recently accessible data was from 2007-08 and included ages ranging from 12-21. The following data will include both Mt. Blue Middle School as well as Mt. Blue High School because of this.) The chart reflects a large number of students receiving special education services in both the Mt. Blue Middle and High Schools *(www.maine.gov)*.

**Figure 7A**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Age Levels** | **2003-04** | **2004-05** | **2005-06** | **2006-07** | **2007-08** |
| **12-17** | 141 | 140 | 155 | 134 | 135 |
| **18-21** | 12 | 15 | 17 | 11 | 12 |
| **Total** | 153 | 155 | 172 | 145 | 147 |

Figure 7B shows the number of students classified by special education learning impairment from 2003-04 to 2007-08. (The most recently accessible data was from 2007-08 and included ages ranging from 12-21. The following data will include both Mt. Blue Middle School as well as Mt. Blue High School because of this.) One can see that there are a wide variety of learning impairments receiving special education services at the Mt. Blue Middle and High Schools *(www.maine.gov)*.

**Figure 7B**

| **Learning Impairment** | **2003-04 (*n*= 153 )** | **2004-05 (*n*= 155 )** | **2005-06 (*n*= 172)** | **2006-07 (*n*= 145)** | **2007-08**  **(*n*= 147)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mental Retardation | 12 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 11 |
| Hearing Impairment | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| Deafness | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Speech/Language Impairment | 15 | 17 | 23 | 14 | 13 |
| Visual Impairment (Blindness) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Emotional Disability | 15 | 14 | 16 | 10 | 10 |
| Orthopedic Impairment | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Other Health Impairment | 13 | 18 | 18 | 26 | 28 |
| Specific Learning Disability | 69 | 67 | 79 | 65 | 60 |
| Multiple Disabilities | 20 | 14 | 14 | 9 | 15 |
| Developmentally Delayed | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Autism | 6 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 6 |
| Traumatic Brain Injury | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| **Total** | **153** | **155** | **172** | **145** | **147** |

**The Staff**

The school employed 64 teachers in the 2007-08 school year. Figure 8 shows that the number of teachers at Mt. Blue High School has ranged from 64 to 58 over the previous five years (Human Resource Department at the RSU 9 Superintendent of School District Office).

**Figure 8**

Figure 9 shows that several of Mt. Blue High School teachers possess many years of teaching experience, while others are still new at their profession. The only data available for this topic is for this current year. This data was not available over time (Human Resource Department at the RSU 9 Superintendent of School District Office).

**Figure 9**

**Study Questions—Demographic DATA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1. What are our demographic *strengths* and *challenges?*** | |
| ***Strengths*** | *Challenges* |
| For a rural school, we have a very large district. This allows students many opportunities (music programs, theater programs, art classes, etc.) that other rural schools are not able to provide.  We have a variety of teachers, at the high school, with a wide range of experience. This provides our students with a range of different teaching styles and experiences in the classroom. | We have a great deal of students who qualify for free and reduced hot lunch.  The trend in free and reduced lunch is that numbers are slowly rising.  We have a large lack in ethnic diversity. Students have a difficult time identifying and understanding people from other places. Students are not getting the exposure to diversity that other students receive in other school districts.  Enrollment is dropping, but free and reduced hot lunch is going up. |
| **2. What are some *implications* for the school improvement plan?** | |
| Find funding for school programs.  Professional development for staff needs to continue to be on-going in working with at-risk students and meeting diverse student programming needs (literacy initiative, extended day program (EDP), learning labs, and extended year program (EYP)).  Continue to provide, improve, and update technology for our students and teachers. Keep support readily available for this technology, as well. | |
| **3. Looking at the data presented, what other demographic data would you want to  answer the question *Who are we?*** | |
| Data on high school drop out rates (amount as well as at what grade levels)  Data on students’ access and equity with respect to technology.  NWEA data (provided they we start doing them regularly)  AP class data  Student household structure data (single parent, divorced, guardianship, etc)  Parent/Student perception toward teachers and public education in general. | |